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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995

Report of the Fifth Committee (Part II)

Rapporteur: Mr. Larbi DJACTA (Algeria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under item 107 appear in the report of the Committee contained in document A/49/822.

2. The Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 40th, 44th, 47th and 48th meetings, on 24 February and 14, 24 and 27 March 1995. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/49/SR.40, 44, 47 and 48).

II. CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL SUBJECTS

A. United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

3. At its 44th meeting, on 14 March, the Committee considered the question of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research. It had before it a note by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/49/57).

4. At the same meeting, the Committee decided to take note of the note by the Secretary-General and to keep under review the level of support costs charged to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (see para. 12, draft resolution, sect. I).

B. Conditions of service and compensation for officials other than Secretariat officials: pension scheme for the members of the International Court of Justice

5. At its 44th meeting, on 14 March, the Committee considered the question of the pension scheme for members of the International Court of Justice. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/49/8) and the relevant report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/49/7/Add.11).

6. At the same meeting, the Committee decided to take note of the report of the Secretary-General and to endorse the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee (see para. 12, draft resolution, sect. II).

C. Unified conference services at Vienna

7. The Committee considered the question of unified conference services at Vienna at its 40th and 47th meetings, on 24 February and 24 March. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates for conference services at Vienna (A/C.5/49/24) and the relevant report of the Advisory Committee (A/49/7/Add.9).

8. At the 47th meeting, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee introduced a draft resolution (A/C.5/49/L.39), which was submitted on the basis of informal consultations.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/49/L.39 without a vote (see para. 12, draft resolution, sect. III).

D. Reformulation of activities under sections 9 and 10 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995 pursuant to General Assembly resolution 48/228 A

10. At its 48th meeting, on 27 March, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the reformulation of activities under sections 9 and 10 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995 (A/C.5/49/30).

11. At the same meeting, the Committee decided to take note of the report of the Secretary-General (see para. 12, draft resolution, sect. IV).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

12. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Other questions relating to the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995

The General Assembly

I

United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

1. Takes note of the note by the Secretary-General; 1/

2. Decides to keep under review the level of support costs charged to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research;

II

Conditions of service and compensation for officials other than Secretariat officials: pension scheme for the members of the International Court of Justice

Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General 2/ and endorses the related observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 3/

III

Unified conference services at Vienna

Recalling its resolution 44/201 A of 21 December 1989, in which it endorsed the view of the Secretary-General that a single conference-servicing facility at the Vienna International Centre would represent the ideal solution from the standpoint of cost-efficiency,

Recalling also its resolutions 48/218 C and 48/222 A of 23 December 1993, in which it stressed the need for the establishment of unified conference services at Vienna as soon as possible,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates for conference services at Vienna 4/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 5/

1/ A/C.5/49/57.

2/ A/C.5/49/8.

3/ See A/49/7/Add.11.

4/ A/C.5/49/24.

5/ A/49/7/Add.9.

1. Notes with appreciation the estimated net savings resulting from the proposed single conference-servicing facility at Vienna for the budgets of the United Nations and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization taken together;

2. Notes the estimated net additional costs of 324,100 United States dollars resulting from the proposed single conference-servicing facility at Vienna for the United Nations budget for the biennium 1994-1995;

3. Concurs with the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 5/

4. Requests the Secretary-General to proceed to establish the unified conference-servicing facility at the Vienna International Centre under the management of the United Nations on the basis of the following elements and criteria:

(a) The transfer of the conference-servicing posts of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to the United Nations on the basis of the existing staffing table of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, effective from 1 April 1995;

(b) The establishment of the unified conference-servicing facility under budget sections 25E, Conference services, Vienna, and 25I, United Nations Office at Vienna, within existing resources, taking into account increased income in respect of reimbursements from the United Nations Industrial Development Organization for services provided by the United Nations;

(c) An examination of the cause for the high vacancy rate in the Professional category before making any proposal in respect of the staffing table for conference services in Vienna;

(d) A review, in the context of his proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997, of the requirements for conference-servicing staff for and the organigramme of the unified conference services at the United Nations Office at Vienna on the basis of the most updated actual workload statistics and the related United Nations workload standards in conference servicing, taking into account the current and future requirements for conference servicing at Vienna;

5. Also requests the Secretary-General, as a matter of urgency, to implement cost-effective technological innovations for the unified conference services at Vienna;

6. Further requests the Secretary-General to continue to examine the feasibility of contracting out elements of conference services at Headquarters and all duty stations with a view to achieving further cost-efficiency in the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 and subsequent budgets;

IV

Reformulation of activities under sections 9 and 10 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995 pursuant to General Assembly resolution 48/228 A

Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General. 6/

6/ A/C.5/49/30.